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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/649,108	08/28/2000	Lieping Chen	07039-220001	7772

26191 7590 03/31/2004

FISH & RICHARDSON P.C.
3300 DAIN RAUSCHER PLAZA
60 SOUTH SIXTH STREET
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

EXAMINER

ROARK, JESSICA H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1644

DATE MAILED: 03/31/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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EXAMINER

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Commissioner for Patents

Applicant's Response, filed 1/20/04, has obviated the outstanding rejection of claims 6-7, 9 and 49-51 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. The only rejection remaining is the rejection of claims 6-7, 9 and 49-51 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by Freeman et al. (US2002/0102651, of record), which claims the same invention. Applicant's request, filed 1/20/04, to hold this rejection in abeyance is acknowledged. Due to this potential interference, *ex parte* prosecution is **SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF 6 MONTHS** from the date of this letter. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jessica H. Roark whose telephone number is (571) 272-0848. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday from 7:30 to 4:00, and on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 to 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Chan, can be reached at (571) 272-0841. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jessica H. Roark
Art Unit 1644
Technology Center 1600
March 29, 2004

PHILLIP GAMBEL
PHILLIP GAMBEL, PH.D
PRIMARY EXAMINER
TECH CENTER 1600
3/29/04